AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-6. (cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) An impact resistant, double-skinned structure, comprising:

a double-skinned wall structure comprised of an outer skin and an inner skin;

channels attached to an inner surface of the outer skin, the channels having two side walls and a base joining the two side walls together, the two side walls making an angle of 45 degrees with the outer skin; and

stringers extending perpendicularly from the bases to an inner surface of the inner skin~~; and~~

~~strips joining adjacent stringers~~.

8. (previously presented) The impact resistant, double-skinned structure of claim 7, wherein the channels have a semi-cylindrical cross-section.

9. (previously presented) The impact resistant, double-skinned structure of claim 7, wherein the channels are made of steel 37.

10. (Currently Amended) The impact resistant, double-skinned structure of claim 7, further comprising:

further channels attached to the inner surface of the inner skin, the channels having two side walls and a base joining the two side walls together, the two side walls making an angle of 45 degrees with the outer skin;

further stringers extending perpendicularly from the bases of the further channels to the inner surface of outer inner skin; and

~~further~~ strips joining adjacent further stringers.

11. (Currently Amended) The impact resistant, double-skinned structure of claim 10, wherein the strips ~~and the further strips~~ run parallel between the inner and the outer hull of a ship.

12-17. (cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) The impact resistant, double-skinned structure of claim 7, wherein the structure is a ship's hull.

19. (Currently Amended) An impact resistant, double-skinned structure, comprising:

a double-skinned wall structure comprised of an outer skin and an inner skin;

channels attached to an inner surface of the outer skin, the channels having two side walls and a base joining the two side walls together; and

stringers extending perpendicularly from the bases to an inner surface of the inner skin~~; and~~

~~strips joining adjacent stringers~~.

20. (previously presented) The impact resistant, double-skinned structure of claim 19, wherein the two side walls making an angle of 45 degrees with the outer skin.

21. (previously presented) The impact resistant, double-skinned structure of claim 19, wherein the channels have a semi-cylindrical cross-section.

22. (previously presented) The impact resistant, double-skinned structure of claim 19, wherein the channels are made of steel 37.

23. (Currently Amended) The impact resistant, double-skinned structure of claim 19, further comprising:

further channels attached to the inner surface of the inner skin, the channels having two side walls and a base joining the two side walls together, the two side walls making an angle of 45 degrees with the outer skin;

further stringers extending perpendicularly from the bases of the further channels to the inner surface of outer inner skin; and

~~further~~ strips joining adjacent further stringers.

24. (previously presented) The impact resistant, double-skinned structure of claim 23, wherein the strips ~~and the further strips~~ run parallel between the inner and the outer hull of a ship.

25. (previously presented) The impact resistant, double-skinned structure of claim 19, wherein the structure is a ship's hull.

26. (new) An impact resistant, double-skinned structure of claim 7, further comprising strips joining adjacent stringers.

27. (new) An impact resistant, double-skinned structure of claim 19, further comprising strips joining adjacent stringers.

28. (new) An impact resistant, double-skinned structure, comprising:

a double-skinned wall structure comprised of an outer skin and an inner skin;

channels attached to an inner surface of the outer skin, the channels having two side walls and a base joining the two side walls together, the two side walls making a non-zero angle with the outer skin; and

stringers parallel to and extending perpendicularly from the bases to an inner surface of the inner skin.

29. (new) The impact resistant, double-skinned structure of claim 28, wherein the two side walls making an angle of 45 degrees with the outer skin.

30. (new) The impact resistant, double-skinned structure of claim 28, wherein the channels have a semi-cylindrical cross-section.

31. (new) The impact resistant, double-skinned structure of claim 19, further comprising:

strips joining adjacent stringers;

further channels attached to the inner surface of the inner skin, the channels having two side walls and a base joining the two side walls together, the two side walls making an angle of 45 degrees with the outer skin;

further stringers extending perpendicularly from the bases of the further channels to the inner surface of outer inner skin; and

further strips joining adjacent further stringers.

32. (new) The impact resistant, double-skinned structure of claim 23, wherein the structure is a ship's hull.